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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 9289
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SENSITIVE SIPDIS

STATE FOR NEA/ELA, NEA/RA AND EEB/IDF TREASURY FOR SOBEL AND BAUKOL

E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: <u>ECON</u> <u>EFIN</u> <u>EG</u>

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN CANDIDATE FOR CHAIR OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY

AND FINANCIAL COMMITTEE

Sensitive but unclassified. Please handle accordingly.

- 11. (SBU) In a May 8 meeting, Finance Minister Boutros Ghali informed the Ambassador of his candidacy for Chair of the IMF's Monetary and Financial Committee and asked for U.S. support. The Ambassador told the Minister she was not the decision maker on this, but congratulated him for throwing in his hat and said she would make sure that Washington considered his candidacy seriously.
- 12. (SBU) Boutros Ghali's qualifications and skills are well known in Washington. We urge that he be given due consideration in the decision process. As a former IMF staffer and an outspoken champion of economic reform, he has labored in difficult situations in Egypt for a long time, and under the current administration has finally been more able to reap some positive results.

SCOBEY